

## Testimony in Support of HB 5416

Submitted by:

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Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to address this committee with regards to HB 5416 – an act establishing a livestock care standards advisory council and prohibiting the use of certain enclosure for gestating sows.

As a member of the organization Connecticut Votes for Animals, I am always very concerned about various factory farming practices which I consider to be inhumane.

As such I would like to express my strong support for HB 5416, which would create a livestock care standards advisory council and prohibit the use of gestation crates for the breeding of pigs.

At this point, I believe I can assume that the members of this committee have seen pictures of what these gestation crates look like, and in this case a picture is worth a thousand words. This is not a particularly complex issue to understand. The use of these wire crates which keeps the young pigs completely immobilized is an inhumane practice. Point blank inhumane!!! I don't see how anyone could argue otherwise.

Times are changing, and factory farming practices that once may have been considered acceptable in the past now need to be reviewed, and a common sense standard applied when considering revisions to the laws. The use of these gestation crates is a clear cut example of that.

Consequently I want to express my total support for the passage of HB 5416, and look forward to the banning of the practice of using gestation crates in Connecticut in the very near future.